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## BOOK NOTICES.

The first three volumes of the *Harvard Historical Studies* published from the income of the Henry Warren Torrey Fund lie on our table. They are admirable specimens of book-making and reflect credit on the publishers — the Messrs. Longmans. As specimens of book-making in another sense they also reflect credit, though not so much, on the University that stands sponsor for them. They are excellent historical monographs as such things now go, but it is permissible to wish that the present style of these fast accumulating treatises would undergo a “sea change into something rich and strange” viz. a readable book on an important subject handled by a scholar who has had time to ripen. While waiting for this change we may be thankful, however, for such handy compilations as that of Dr. W. E. B. DuBois on the “Suppression of the Slave Trade.” Dr. DuBois is a negro who naturally has an interest in his subject which he has handled conscientiously and thoroughly for his space, if not always attractively. For facts and figures his volume will be most valuable, but it is easy to infer from his treatment of such a topic as the attitude of the Southern Commercial Conventions toward the slave trade that he does not know how to make a very readable book. The second volume of the series is a careful and distinctly important study of the interesting “Contest over the Ratification of the Federal Constitution in the State of Massachusetts” by Professor S. B. Harding of Indiana University. The third volume is “A Study of Nullification in South Carolina” by Professor D. F. Houston of the University of Texas. It is the best piece of work we have on the subject and is particularly valuable as showing that Calhoun was not by any means the father of a theory usually imputed to him. Curiously enough Professor Houston does not mention John Taylor of Caroline, whose criticisms of the Con-

stitution must have had much to do with the formulation of the Carolinian doctrine.

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A very important book for the anthropologist is the first volume of Mr. A. J. Butler's translation of Professor Friedrich Ratzel's *History of Mankind* to which that well-known scholar, Dr. E. B. Tylor, furnishes an introduction. The revised edition of 1894-5 is followed so that the work is brought strictly up to date. The testimony of such scholars as Virchow to its merits is sufficient recommendation to all who are interested in the broad subject of which it treats, and it remains only to praise the numerous illustrations and the general make-up of the volume of which the Macmillan Company are the publishers.

The same publishers send us in a handsome volume a reprint of Professor Max Muller's centenary translation of Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason* — a book which the student will be glad to have in such a convenient form. They also give us a second edition of Mr. Brooks Adams's interesting and erratic *Law of Civilization and Decay* — a book which is a strange product for optimistic America and which could certainly have come from no other part of it than New England.

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Among the recent publications of the American Book Company we notice a volume entitled *The Mastery of Books* by Mr. H. L. Koopman, librarian of Brown University, which may prove useful to that large class of persons whose desires for culture are greater than their opportunities for acquiring it. The same thing may be said for the volume entitled *The Bible as Literature*, a series of essays by well-known scholars which Dr. Lyman Abbott has edited. (T. Y. Crowell & Co.) A more limited appeal is made by Mr. F. B. Jevons's *Introduction to the History of Religion* (Macmillan) but the book will be found distinctly helpful both by the general reader and by the student of anthropology.

Professor E. B. Titchener of Cornell has published with the Macmillan Company a text-book entitled *An Outline of Psychology* which has already proved its usefulness in such a practical way that it is about to pass into a second edition. It seems well adapted in its general arrangement for class purposes and is especially valuable for the full descriptions given of the numerous experiments discussed. Professor Titchener is in our judgment very successful in preserving a rigorously scientific attitude toward his subject and the student who uses his book under a competent teacher will certainly not be led off prematurely into the mazes of metaphysical inquiry. The last chapter of the volume is particularly lucid, however, in its method of bringing out the limitations of psychology and the need of an orderly and balanced study of metaphysics.

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Messrs. Silver, Burdett & Co., have recently published a little book that will be useful to the "alas! too few" students of our "sage and serious" poet Edmund Spenser. This is Miss Alice Elizabeth Sawtelle's doctoral thesis entitled *The Sources of Spenser's Mythology*. The labor expended on the thin volume was evidently enormous, but as her own work will lighten that of other scholars the conscientious young author will be compensated for it. It is, too, an encouraging sign to see Spenser receive some attention now-a-days.

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The daughter of the late Dean Church has gathered into two volumes, which the Macmillan Company have published in their well-known *Eversley Series*, the chief contributions made by her father to the *Guardian*, the *Times*, and the *Saturday Review* between 1846 and 1890. As might be expected the subjects of these "Occasional Papers" are chiefly ecclesiastical and theological—in fact they are mainly reviews of books of such nature. Newspaper criticism is not usually worth collecting, but Dean Church always wrote so

well that his admirers will not be sorry that his daughter's zeal unearthed the fifty-four papers that have been selected for publication. Besides, these reviews are mainly of the old-fashioned and to us always attractive type that Macaulay popularized — the book serves as a peg for the reviewer to hang his own disquisitions upon. So Colonel Higginson's translation of the works of Epictetus serves merely as the text for an attractive discussion of the character and teaching of that great moralist, and Mr. Cotter Morrison's life of St. Bernard serves a similar purpose. Sometimes, however, both author and book are minutely criticised, when, as in the case of Mr. Lecky and of M. Renan, they are worthy of it. Bearing these facts in mind one can judge of the general interest and value of the volumes when one learns that they treat of Cromwell, of Ignatius Loyola, of Fénelon, of Lamennais, of Bunsen, of Maurice, of Cardinal Newman, and of Mark Pattison, and that this list is not a tithe of the important topics discussed briefly or at length. Perhaps the two essays on Pattison may be fairly taken as samples of the merits and defects of the whole collection, and in these the merits far outweigh the defects. Pattison was a subject well calculated to put the Dean's fairness to a severe test, yet no admirer of the great Rector of Lincoln can cavil at the spirit that pervades these essays.

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The newly formed Southern History Association has begun a quarterly series of "Publications" the first number of which lies before us. It is very neatly printed and, if we may judge from its contents, will do much to stimulate work in Southern history along critical lines. Among its contributors we note the well-known names of Dr. Stephen B. Weeks, Colonel Richard Malcolm Johnston, General Marcus J. Wright, and Mr. Edward Ingle.

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The Editor of this REVIEW has just published with Messrs. T. Y. Crowell & Co., under the title *Southern*

*Statesmen of the Old Régime* the lectures on Washington, Jefferson, John Randolph, Calhoun, A. H. Stephens, Toombs, and Jefferson Davis, which he delivered at Madison, Wisconsin in the winter and at Sewanee in the summer of 1896. The book is attractively printed and is furnished with excellent portraits of the statesmen of whom it treats.

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Professor F. Muench, Ph.D., of Charleston, S. C., has just issued from the press of the Lucas & Richardson Company of that city a volume of patriotic poems appropriately entitled *Palmetto Lyrics*. The book is divided into three parts — devoted respectively to the Legends, the Heroines and the Heroes of South Carolina, and the author fitly dedicates his labor of love to the boys and girls of his historic commonwealth. Professor Muench has seen, as we could wish some writer would see in every Southern State, what a mine of poetry is furnished by local traditions as yet practically unworked, and we cannot but hope that his little volume will not only stimulate the patriotism of the youth to whom it is dedicated but will be also the precursor of many similar volumes throughout the South. From such a collection of legends and lays the master-poets of the future will be able to draw copiously, even if the present status of poetic art in America forbids us to hope that a final form can now be given to the material that lies so ready at hand.

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Two volumes of poetry (*Wasted Moments*, Poems privately printed. Buffalo: Moulton, 1891; *Sebastian*, a Dramatic Poem. Buffalo: Moulton, 1894,) by Mr. G. B. Rose of Arkansas are worthy of note both because of their intrinsic merit and because their defects are a significant illustration of the difficulties under which the higher forms of literature will always labor in any country where systematic literary criticism is undeveloped or disregarded. Mr. Rose has the lyric spirit to a degree that makes his poetry often

agreeable and occasionally delightful. Had he subjected this spirit to the discipline that almost every French versifier is constrained to undergo before he can hope for a hearing, had he been willing to learn the *métier* of his art, we think there is promise here that he would have produced a few lyrics that might have been not indeed great but yet "beyond the limits of a vulgar fate." But unfortunately we have not in the South, and indeed we have not in America and hardly in England, any such critical standards, any such universally recognized canons of poetic excellence, as bind alike the Verlaines and the Leconte de Lisles, the Mallarmé's and the de Heredias of France, and so we have no such school of almost impeccable minor poets as those that formed the choir of the *Parnasse contemporain*. The result is that in Mr. Rose's work the lyric cry is obscured by not infrequent metrical irregularities, by an undue resort to *chevilles* and by quite too many *enjambements*. More serious still are the awkward inversions often easily avoidable and unintentional rhymes in the middle of verses. All this does not affect the spirit, we can and ought to penetrate beneath it, but it mars the artistry of the work and it is because our critical writers have not taught all literary men to feel these things instinctively that so much of genuine poetic feeling among us finds so halting an utterance. Then, too, self-criticism ought to save a man from spoiling the effect of his best work by commonplaces sometimes startling in their futility. The man who in his "Rome" can write of Michael Angelo "Who freed thy awful Moses from the stone" ought to spare us the banality that follows, "The Haunted Wood", which in the opening stanzas suggests Gautier and Baudelaire, but sadly *desinat in piscem* at the close. One feels the unevenness, especially in the dramatic poem "Sebastian", which has some admirable philosophic and lyric passages. What Mr. Rose in common with almost all our Southern poets needs is the feeling that there is a critical standard to be attained and that those who attain it will be sure of recognition and their due meed of praise from those

who know, the only praise which the artist in any field ought to aspire to.

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We have received from the Macmillan Company *An Introduction to the History of the English Church from the earliest Times to the Present Day*," by Henry Offley Wakeman, M.A. As the author states in his preface his volume is an attempt to draw a picture of the development of the English Church rather than to give a detailed account of its history. His only apology for venturing upon a field which has been so often reviewed and so thoroughly worked over is the hope that he might give in short and convenient form an answer to the question: "How did the Church of England come to be what she is?" Mr. Wakeman has admirably succeeded in avoiding the dullness of the usual manual and text-book style, with its multiplicity of facts and details, often uninteresting and unimportant, and has laid particular stress only upon those periods in the history of the English Church which were formative and which have left some permanent influence upon her fortunes. The treatment of the history of the early British Church is especially fresh and interesting. The development of the Church under Norman influence; the struggle between Church and state during the reigns of William II., Henry I., and Henry II.; the inner life of the Church in the middle ages; the causes which led up to and produced the Reformation, and the period of the revival of church life in the nineteenth century are handled with a strong grasp upon essentials and with a rare power of generalization. We have no hesitation in recommending this volume as an admirable treatise on English Church History for the average reader who has not time for a more learned and comprehensive study, who wants to get at underlying causes rather than at prosaic facts, and who desires the whole presented in an attractive and pleasing style.

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The latest additions to that excellent series of text-books on English literature which bears the imprint of the *Athe-*



*næum Press* (Boston, Ginn & Co.) are Professor G. R. Carpenter's *Selections from Steele* and Professor Archibald MacMechan's edition of Carlyle's *Sartor Resartus*. The feature of this series which seems to have been most stressed by its general editors, Professors Kittredge and Winchester, is the furnishing of well annotated classics which are not often used in colleges but which might well be employed by the competent teacher who likes to break from the beaten path. So we have editions of Sidney's *Defense of Poesy* and of Jonson's *Timber*, and selections Jeffrey's *Essays* and Herrick's *Hesperides* and *Golden Numbers*. We have also selections from the old English ballads and from Gray and Keats, and the two volumes now on our table. Most of these books are distinctly useful and all that we have seen have been well edited. We do not, indeed, exactly see how Jeffrey can be used profitably as a text-book or Herrick either, except with a small advanced class, but as the series is intended for the general reader also, it was certainly well to include them. Professor Cook's edition of Sidney's *Defense*, on the other hand, makes a very good text-book—merely as a specimen of good Elizabethan English, but as a basis for a systematic study of the nature of poetry. We imagine that Professor Carpenter's well-edited *Steele* might also serve the purposes of the class-room by alternating with Addison as a representative of the early essay and by serving as a foil to the study of that great but slightly unattractive genius. Professor MacMechan's book is so voluminously fortified with introductions and notes that we fear many teachers will hesitate to make practical use of it—but they will all be glad, and the student of Carlyle as well, that he had the courage to undertake the immense labor that any man must encounter who wishes to stand forth as an interpreter of Carlyle. In conclusion we shall express the hope that the whole series may receive the encouragement it deserves and in consequence grow apace.

The first volume of Mr. William Ernest Henley's *Works of Lord Byron* (New York, the Macmillan Company) lies before us. It has been long expected and now that the first instalment has come to hand, there is little reason for any of us to be disappointed. The publishers have done their part, and the editor his, in perfectly characteristic fashion. The book-making is excellent, the editing partly so. Mr. Henley has the defects of his qualities, and conspicuous among his qualities are cocksureness and a fondness for what other people shrink from. It follows therefore that some of his notes have an unnecessarily oracular tone and that others have a distinctly vulgar, not to say brutal tone. But Mr. Henley knows a great deal about Byron and his age and he is, rightly we think, convinced of his hero's essential greatness; he has therefore given us a body of annotations of very great interest and value. He is far from being an ideal editor, but in spite of his manifest defects, he is a good one, and no matter what the forthcoming Murray edition proves to be, it is obvious that Mr. Henley's will be necessary to every serious student of Byron. When it has progressed further (volume I. contains only the letters from 1804 to 1813) we shall endeavor to give it the careful and detailed notice it deserves. At present we can merely recommend it warmly to all our readers, with the further recommendation that they do not suffer themselves to be alienated from Byron by the absurd judgments upon him that are daily being passed by critics who ought to know better. Byron is too great a force in our literature to be neglected by anyone, and Mr. Henley's edition of him is too good to be dispensed with, although it does not deserve all the praise that has been already fulsomely showered upon it from certain quarters.

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Among recent text-books for schools and colleges we note several volumes of the *Ça Ira Series* of French plays edited by Professor B. W. Wells (Allyn and Bacon), *Selections from Carlyle* edited by Henry W. Boynton (same

publishers) ; several volumes in Longmans' *English Classics* an excellent series under the editorship of Professor George R. Carpenter of Columbia College ; a revised and enlarged edition of Professor Charles F. Richardson's *Primer of American Literature* which long ago proved its usefulness (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.) ; a translation of Eginhard's *Life of Charlemagne*, with notes and a map, by Samuel Epes Turner (Harper & Bros.) a little volume which ought to be useful for supplemental reading ; *A Brief History of the Nations* by Professor George P. Fisher (American Book Co.) a convenient and well illustrated manual ; *A History of Rome to the Death of Cæsar* by W. W. How and H. D. Leigh (Longmans') ; *A Guide to American History* by Professors Edward Channing and A. B. Hart (Ginn & Co.) a most useful bibliographical hand-book for the student ; *Europe in the Middle Age* by Oliver J. Thatcher and Ferdinand Schwill (Scribners')—an elaborate manual ; Macaulay's *Essays on Addison, Milton, Johnson, and Goldsmith* — all in the *Riverside Literature Series* (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.) and edited by Professor W. P. Trent ; and several volumes of Professor R. G. Moulton's *The Modern Reader's Bible* (Macmillan) — a most commendable enterprise.